Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 SY-03 INR-10 IO-14

NSC-07 CIAE-00 SCCT-02 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /106 W

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FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2604 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL ASMARA 242

E. O. 11652 : GDS TAGS : PINS, CASC ET SUBJ : TENNECO FIVE

REF: ASMARA 241

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE WAS DELIVERED TO BURCHAELL ABOUT 1 P.M.

TODAY:

QTE MARCH 30, 1974

TO IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT

OUR CAPTORS ARE GRAVELY CONCERNED THAT VIOLENT ACTION IN THE FORM OF DEATH OR BODILY HARM MAY BE TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AGAINST CIVILIANS BECAUSE OF OUR CAPTURE. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT RETAILATORY ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST US IF SUCH A POLICY IS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT. WE THEREFORE REQUEST THAT NO RETALIATON BE MADE AGAINST CIVILIANS AND THAT NO PURSUIT OR SEARCH BE MADE FOR US BY ETHIOPIAN TROOPS.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT OUR CAPTURE AND CONFINEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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ARE A RESULT OF OUR ENTERING ERITREAN TERRITORY

WITHOUT A PERMIT. THEREFORE ALL REQUESTS OR NEGOTIATIONS FOR OUR RELEASE SHOULD BE STRICTLY CONFINED TO TENNECO AND THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT . THE REQUESTS AND NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE PEACEFUL. IT IS ONLY IN THIS MANNER THAT THE ELF WILL RELEASE US.

C.M. JAMES D. WEDEAFORT JROGERS
(SIGNATURE) (SIGNATURE)

BILL CAYCE
(SIGNATURE)

MATTE TAVOLA (SIGNATURE) U.N DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

CC. TENNECO ETHIOPIA, INC ADDDIS ABABA

- 2. THE TEXT OF THE LETTER WAS IDENTIFIED AS ROGERS HANDWRITING BY BURCHAELL. COPY TO FOLLOW BY POUCH.
- 3. A SECOND LETTER WAS PASSED TO TENNECO BY MEANS OF IEG POLICE RADIO. ACCORDING TO BURCHAELL THIS LETTER INDICATED THAT TENNECO'S CAPTORS WOULD NEGOTIATE ONLY WITH THE GOV'T. AS INDICATED IN REF AND CONFIRMED BY OTHER USG SOURCES THE GOVGEN HAS TAKEN A HOSTILE ATTITUDE TOWARDS TENNECO'S HANDLING OF THE SITUATION AND TENNECO'S NEGOTIATING WITH THE ELF.
- 4. BURTCHAELL IS ATTEMPTING TO GET AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE GOVGEN TOMORROW TO DISCUSS THE ABOVE PROBLEM. PERRY

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, HOSTAGES, NEGOTIATIONS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: : TENNECO FIVE

TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET, US, ELF, TENNECO, (JAMES, C M), (WEDEAFORT), (ROGERS, J), (CAYCE, BILL), (TAVOLA, LMATTE)

To: STATE ADDIS ABABA

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005